

CLAIM CHANGES:

b3

1. (Previously Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) An ID card-making apparatus ~~comprising card-making means~~ for detecting a photograph portion ~~from~~ as image data from an ID card application form in which ruled lines and characters are printed and a photograph of an applicant is attached to an attachment position, extracting a target image from the detected photograph portion, and making an ID card based on the target image, comprising:

image reading means for reading an image from ~~a predetermined area~~ an area of predetermined size, within which at least ~~a~~ the photograph attached to the ID card application form is present;

an image processing section including (i) photograph position detection means for detecting a photograph portion from image data obtained by the image reading means and (ii) photographic image extraction means for extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by a photograph edge and which excludes the photograph edge , said photograph edge being detected by comparing vertical and horizontal components of the photograph portion detected by the photograph position detection means with ~~those of~~ combinations of vertical and horizontal components of predetermined photograph size and detecting vertical and horizontal components of the photograph attached to the ID card application form; and

ID card-making means for making an ID card ~~to~~ on which the photographic image extracted by the photographic image extraction means of the image processing section is printed.

3. (Currently Amended) An ID card-making apparatus for detecting a photograph portion ~~from~~ as image data from an ID card application form in which ruled lines and characters are printed and a photograph of an applicant is attached to an attachment position, extracting a target image from the detected photograph portion, and making an ID card based on the target image, comprising:

~~image reading means for reading an image from an area that is large enough to include a photograph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form;~~

an image processing section including (i) photograph position detection means for detecting a photograph edge by comparing vertical and horizontal components included in image data obtained by the image reading means ~~with those of~~ combinations of vertical and horizontal components of predetermined photograph size and detecting vertical and horizontal components of the photograph attached to the ID card application form and (ii) photographic image extraction means for extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the photograph edge detected by the photograph position detection means and which excludes the photograph edge; and

ID card-making means for making an ID card ~~to~~ on which the photographic image extracted by the photographic image extraction means of the image processing section is ~~attached~~ printed.

4. (Currently Amended) An ID card-making apparatus for detecting a photograph portion ~~from~~ as image data from an ID card application form in which ruled lines and characters are printed and a photograph of an applicant is attached to an attachment position

extracting a target image from the detected photograph portion, and making an ID card based on the target image, comprising:

image reading means for reading an image from an area ~~that is large enough to include a photograph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined~~ within which at least the photograph attached to the ID card application form is present;

an image processing section including (i) photograph position detection means for detecting a photograph edge by comparing vertical and horizontal components included in image data obtained by the image reading means with ~~those of~~ combinations of vertical and horizontal components of predetermined photograph size and detecting vertical and

horizontal components of the photograph attached to the ID card application form; (ii) photographic image extraction means for extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the photograph edge detected by the photograph position detection means and which excludes the photograph edge; (iii) figure image extraction means for extracting a figure portion from the photographic image extracted by the photographic image extracting means; (iv) background image storage means for storing background image data; (v) image synthesis means for producing a composite image by synthesizing the background image data stored in the background image storage means with figure portion data extracted by the figure image extraction means; and

card-making means for making an ID card ~~to~~ on which the composite image produced by the image synthesis means is ~~attached~~ printed.

5. (Original) An ID card-making apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said background image storage means includes a storage section for storing background image data into which forgery preventing data is inserted.

6. (Original) An ID card-making apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said background image storage means includes a storage section for storing at least one of:

background image data into which an ID code for forgery prevention is inserted; and

background image data into which a plurality of predetermined marks for forgery prevention are inserted.

cont.
b3

7. (Previously Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) An ID card-making method comprising:

an image reading step for reading an image from an area ~~that is large enough to include a photograph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form of~~ predetermined size which includes at least a photograph of an applicant, the ID card application form being a form in which ruled lines and characters are printed and the photograph of the applicant is attached to a predetermined position;

a photograph position detection step for detecting a photograph edge by comparing vertical and horizontal components included in image data obtained in the image reading step ~~with those of~~ combinations of vertical and horizontal components of predetermined photograph size and detecting vertical and horizontal components of the photograph attached to the ID card application form;

a photographic image extraction step for extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the photograph edge detected in the photograph position detection step and which excludes the photograph edge; and

a card-making step for making an ID card ~~to~~ on which the photographic image extracted in the photographic image extraction step is ~~attached~~ printed.

9. (Currently Amended) An ID card-making method comprising:

an image reading step for reading an image from an area ~~that is large enough to include a photograph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form of~~ predetermined size which includes at least a photograph of an applicant, the ID card application form being a form in which ruled lines and characters are printed and the photograph of the applicant is attached to a predetermined position ;

a photograph position detection step for detecting a photograph edge by comparing vertical and horizontal components included in image data obtained in the image reading step with ~~those of~~ combinations of vertical and horizontal components of predetermined photograph size and detecting vertical and horizontal components of the photograph attached to the ID card application form;

a photographic image extraction step for extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the photograph edge detected in the photograph position detection step and which excludes the photograph edge;

a figure image extraction step for extracting a figure portion from the photographic image extracted in the photographic image extracting step;

an image synthesis step for producing a composite image by synthesizing background image data stored beforehand with figure portion data extracted in the figure image extraction step; and

a card-making step for making an ID card ~~to~~ on which the composite image produced in the image synthesis step is ~~attached~~ printed.

10. (Original) An ID card-making method according to claim 9, wherein said image synthesis step synthesizes the background image data, into which forgery prevention data is inserted, with the figure portion data extracted in the figure image extraction step.

11. (Previously Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An ID card comprising a photographic image attached thereto, said photographic image being made by

reading an image from an area ~~that is large enough to include a photograph-graph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form~~ of predetermined size which includes at least a photograph of an applicant, the ID card application form being a form in which ruled lines and characters are printed and the photograph of the applicant is attached to a predetermined position;

detecting a photograph edge by comparing vertical and horizontal components included in obtained image data with ~~those of~~ combinations of vertical and horizontal components of predetermined photograph size and detecting vertical and horizontal components of the photograph attached to the ID card application form ; and

extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the detected photograph edge and which excludes the photograph edge; and using the extracted photograph.

13. (Currently Amended) An ID card comprising a composite image ~~that is made by~~
printed thereon, said composite image being made by

reading an image from an area ~~that is large enough to include a photograph of~~
~~predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form~~ of predetermined size which
includes at least a photograph of an applicant, the ID card application form being a form in
which ruled lines and characters are printed and the photograph of the applicant is attached to
a predetermined position ;

detecting a photograph edge by comparing vertical and horizontal components
included in obtained image data with ~~those of~~ combinations of vertical and horizontal
components of predetermined photograph size and detecting vertical and horizontal
components of the photograph attached to the ID card application form ;

extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the
detected photograph edge and which excludes the photograph edge;

extracting figure portion data from the extracted photographic image; and producing a
composite image by synthesizing background image data stored beforehand with the extracted
figure portion data.

14. (Original) An ID card according to claim 13, wherein said background image
data includes forgery prevention data.